

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ABF-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SY-05 MCT-01 /018 R

DRAFTED BY A/BF/OAG:DLQUAID, JR.:STP  
APPROVED BY A/BF/OAG:JHSOUTHERLAND  
A/SY:WHOLDA  
ARA/MGT:GKRIEGER  
M/CT:JKARKASHIAN

-----086303 180349Z /70

P 180051Z FEB 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 043247

PANAMA FOR GAO TUCKER; ALL POSTS INFORM RSO'S

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AGAO, ASEC, PINS

SUBJECT:GAO REVIEW: "EFFECTIVENESS OF COUNTER-TERRORISM  
MEASURES."

1. DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN INFORMED BY GAO OF THEIR INTENTION  
TO INITIATE SUBJECT REVIEW IN WASHINGTON AND AT ADDRESSEE  
POSTS. FOCUS OF THIS REVIEW WILL BE THE READINESS OF U.S.  
EMBASSIES TO COUNTER TERRORIST ACTIONS; THE EXTENT OF  
SUPPORT THEY EXPECTED AND RECEIVED FROM HOST COUNTRIES, AND  
THEIR(HOST COUNTRY) EXPERIENCE AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR  
INTERNATIONALLY PROTECTED PERSONS AND PROPERTY. GAO WILL  
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WANT TO MEET WITH THE SECURITY WATCH COMMITTEE AND TO  
OBTAIN FROM ADMIN OFFICER COST DATA ON SECURITY IMPROVE-  
MENTS.THEY WILL ALSO WANT TO MEET WITH HOST GOVERNMENT  
OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS THE PROTECTION AFFORDED NATIONALS OF  
OTHER COUNTRIES. PROTECTION OF BUSINESS PERSONS AND  
PRIVATE CITIZENS IS EXCLUDED FROM THIS REVIEW.

2. GAO WASHINGTON HAS BEEN BRIEFED BY THE OFFICE OF SECURITY AND THE OFFICE OF THE COORDINATOR FOR COMBATTING TERRORISM. THEY HAVE ALSO BEEN BRIEFED BY DOD AND CIA.

3. GAO TEAM FROM THEIR LATIN AMERICA BRANCH IN PANAMA WOULD LIKE TO BEGIN WORK APPROXIMATELY MARCH 6 SUBJECT TO

THE CONCURRENCE OF THE EMBASSIES. PLEASE ADVISE WITH INFO COPY TO PANAMA FOR GAO TUCKER.

4. PRESENT PLANS CALL FOR GAO TO SPEND UP TO THREE WEEKS IN BUENOS AIRES AND UP TO TWO WEEKS EACH IN MONTEVIDEO AND MEXICO CITY. THEY PLAN TO SPEND ONLY A FEW DAYS EACH IN CARACAS, GUATEMALA AND BOGOTA. EXACT DATES AND NAMES AND SECURITY CLEARANCES OF AUDITORS WILL BE COMMUNICATED BY DIRECTOR GAO PANAMA AFTER EMBASSY CONCURRENCE IS RECEIVED.

5. GAO ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, JOSEPH DIGIORGIO AND SUPERVISORY AUDITOR, LOUIS ZANARDI WILL VISIT EACH POST EITHER AT THE START OF OR DURING THE COURSE OF THE TEAM VISIT. DEPARTMENT WILL ADVISE EXACT DATES WHEN KNOWN. DEPARTMENT CERTIFIES THAT MESSRS. DIGIORGIO AND ZANARDI POSSESS CURRENT TOP SECRET SECURITY CLEARANCES.

6. DEPARTMENT WISHES TO COOPERATE WITH GAO IN ACCORDANCE  
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WITH THE GUIDELINES IN 4 FAM 930-934. GAO IS AWARE THAT CONTACTS WITH FOREIGN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ARE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE AMBASSADOR, TO BE ARRANGED FOR BY THE EMBASSY, AND AN EMBOFF TO ACCOMPANY, IF FEASIBLE. VANCE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Concepts:** TERRORISM, REPORTS  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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